

His Majesties P E E C H

With the
LORD KEEPERS

To both Houses of

PARLIAMENT.

October 19. 1669.

As also His Majesties Letter to the Parliament
Scotland, the Speech of the Earl of *Lauderdale*
and Commissioner to the Parliament there, and
Parliaments answer to the Kings Letter.



DUBLIN,

Printed by Benjamin Tooke, and are to be sold by Samuel Danter Book-
seller in Castlestree, 1669.

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By his Majesties Command



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LONDON

His Majesties most Gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament, with the Lord Keepers, on Tuesday October 19. 1669.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Am very glad to see you here at this time, and I hope this will be a happy meeting, for I have had great Experience of your Affection and Loyalty to Me, and am very confident of the continuance of it. It is now almost a Year and a half since Your last sitting; and though my Debts have prest Me very much, I was unwilling to call for your Assistance till this time: what you were last was wholly applied to the Navy, and that extraordinary Fleet for which it was intended. I desire that you will now take my Debts effectually into your considerations. Something I have to propose to you of great Importance concerning the uniting of England and Scotland, but it will require some time, and I have left that and all other things to my Lord Keeper, to open them more fully to you.

The Lord Keepers Speech.

My Lords, and you Knights, Citizens and Burgeses of the House of Commons.

His Majesty in His most gracious Speech hath expressed His great satisfaction in seeing you here at this time, and His hopes of a happy issue of this meeting; To obtain this, nothing can conduce more then a good correspondency and union among your selves.

He hath reason to believe that you all come with the same common affections for the general good, and therefore perswades himself, there will be no differences between the Two Houses; but if there should be any such, he earnestly recommends it to you, that by Your Moderation and Wisedoms such expedients may be found out as may compose them, and that thereby no delay or obstruction be to your other proceedings.

His Majesty hath also desired you to take his debts effectually into consideration. I need not mention to You the uneasiness of his condition with that burthen, nor the inconveniences or mischiefs, which might fall out, if he should continue under it.

It is not unknown to you, That his Majesty hath been an happy Instrument by the Treaty at *Münster*, and by the Tripple Alliance, to procure Peace between the two neighbouring Crowns: the securing of that Peace (wherein our own peace is concerned) and his Majesties reputation abroad, will also much depend upon your kindness to him: And therefore he hopes that you will consider of how great an importance it is at this time, that his Majesty be enabled to bear such a part in the affairs of *Europe*, as may contribute most to his own honour and the safety, benefit and glory of this Nation.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

You may remember that upon his Majesties Recommendation, an Act was lately made for settling Freedom and Intercourse of Trade between *England* and *Scotland*, which was occasioned upon complaints of new duties imposed in each Kingdom upon divers Commodities of the growth, production or Manufacture of the other.

According to this Act, Commissioners were appointed by his Majesty for both Kingdoms to treat upon that affair, and they had several meetings, which produced no effect unless it were a conviction of the difficulty, if not impossibility of settling it in any other way then by a nearer and more compleat Union of the two Kingdoms.

His Majesty is fully perswaded, that nothing can tend more to the good and security of both Nations, then such an Union; and finds that his Royal Grandfather King *James* of blessed memory, went so far on towards this good work, that by Act of Parliament in the first year of his Reign, Commissioners were authorized to treat and consult with Commissioners from *Scotland* concerning it.

And in pursuance of their Treating in the fourth year of his Reign, an Act was made for the repeal of Hostile Laws, and the abolition of the memory of Hostility between the two Nations; and after the end of that Session, about the seventh year of his Reign it was (by the Judges of all the Courts at *Westminster-hall*) solemnly adjudged in the case of the *Post Nati*, that those who (after the discent from the Crown to King *James*) were born in *Scotland*, were no Aliens in *England*; and consequently were capable not only of Lands, but all other Immunities as if they had been born here. By these steps so great an advance hath been made towards this Union, that his Majesty well hopes that what is yet wanting to the perfecting it, may be now accomplished: The

Continuance

continuance under the same obedience and subjection for near
score and seven years, having begotten the same common
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And therefore his Majesty doth most heartily recommend
unto you, That Commissioners may be nominated to treat and
consult with Commissioners from Scotland concerning this union.
His Majesty hath given directions to the Earl of Lauderdale His
Commissioner for Scotland, to make the like proposal to the Par-
liament which is now sitting there; and doubts not but upon the
meeting of such Commissioners of both Kingdoms, those things
shall be offered to your considerations in order to the Union, as
shall tend to the honour of his Majesty, and the common good
of all his Subjects.

And this is all I have in command to say at this time.

His Majesties Letter to His Parliament in Scotland,
Assembled October 19. 1669.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

We do often reflect, with thankfulness and joy, upon the good-
ness of Almighty God, for restoring us to our Kingdoms,
and to their former liberty, and Peace: and we acknowledge it
as an instance of Gods Goodness, that as he hath filled our heart
with kindness towards our Subjects of that our ancient Kingdom, and
with a constant Zeal to promote what we judge conducive to their wel-
fare; so, he hath blest us with returns from them of Love, Loyalty
and ready Compliance with Our pleasure on all occasions, most suitable
unto; of which our late Parliament hath given signal proofs, as
well as our other good Subjects. And this gives us confidence, that the
warmest desire we have to render this Island more happy than ever it
was in times past, by settling amongst all our good Subjects within the
same, a mutual affection that may endure to all posterity, shall meet
with a free concurrence from you our Parliament, whom we have called
together chiefly for this end.

The bringing of these two Kingdoms of Scotland and England, to as
close and strict an union as is possible, is the means that we propose, for
the effectuating thereof: which as it is the highest, and noblest design
we can have, for witnessing our Royal affection to them both, so the
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settled amongst them for ever, but we shall have the glory of accomplishing what our Royal Grandfather King James, of ever blessed Memory, attempted as the greatest thing he could devise, and wherein he who was a competent Judge, placed the happiness of the Crown and Kingdoms, and wherein he meant to have gloried as the chiefest action of his life.

We have fully instructed our Commissioner with our intentions as to this Subject, and concerning such other matters as seem to us to be useful for the constant peace and welfare of the Church and State in this our Kingdom. You are to give him full credit, and he will acquaint us with all matters; and what is farther necessary for us to do, will be speedily performed. So we bid you heartily farewell.

*The Speech of his Grace the Earl of Lauderdale
His Majesties High-Commissioner for the Parliament of Scotland.*

My Lords and Gentlemen.

BY the Authority of the King, and his special command you are here assembled in his high Court of Parliament. You have heard his royal intentions under his own hand, with the chief reasons of his calling you together. You have heard his most gracious expressions of his kindness to his Subjects in this his ancient Kingdom, and his confidence of you their Representatives; And I shall as shortly as I can acquaint you with what I have further command from my Master to say in his name at the opening of this his Parliament. And first I am to assure you of his Majesties constant and unalterable zeal, for maintaining and defending the true reformed Protestant Religion in this his Kingdom, for which he will constantly lay out his whole power and Authority, as also for discouraging and punishing all Atheism and Profanities, and all that is contrary to true Religion and Godliness. I am further particularly commanded to assure you, that with no less zeal and constancy he will maintain and defend the ancient Government by Archbishops and Bishops, as now it is happily settled, as a sure fence for the true reformed Protestant Religion, a Government most suitable to Monarchy; and well may I call it Ancient, for who ever will look into Antiquity shall find Episcopal Government hath continued in the whole Catholick Church both east and west, even from the most Primitive and Apostolick Times. I shall not insist on the sad calamities and confusions which the violent and rebellious endeavours to overturn this Government produced in

his Kingdom; His Majesties gracious Act of Pardon and Oblivion forbids the ripping up those sores which His own Royal hand hath cured, and long may they be buried in oblivion: Yet sure I am, the reflections on those dismal dayes ought to raise no less zeal in the Parliament, and in all good Subjects for the maintaining of that Government as now it is happily settled: For, in His Majesties name and by His special command I do assure you, he will imploy his utmost power in the maintenance of that Government, and will protect the persons of my Lords the Archbishops and Bishops: and of the Loyal, Orthodox and peaceable Clergy in the exercise of their functions: He will not endure those numerous and unlawful Conventicles which tend to sedition and schism, which have been too frequent in some few Shires of this Kingdom: Good laws have been made; and in prosecution of those Laws, the Lords of His Majesties privy Council have shewn their care for suppressing those seditious Assemblies; Yea, and of late His Majesty has graciously indulged the planting of some who were esteemed peaceable men, in vacant Churches, (though they came not up to the rules established.) It will be expected that they walk worthy of so great a favour: But if after this removal of the very pretence of unlawful Conventicles any factious people shall in contempt of His Majesties Laws; yea, and of His indulgence also, seditiously assemble themselves under pretence of religious worship, His Majesty doth require His Parliament, and all in authority under him, vigorously to suppress such meetings, and to bring the pretended Preachers, and the Ring-leaders of such unlawful assemblies, to condign and exemplary punishment.

In the next place, I am commanded to let you know, that I am sufficiently instructed to give His Majesties Royal assent to such laws as shall be prepared in this Parliament, for the constant peace and welfare of this Church, and of the Kingdom in all its Relations: But the chief occasion of calling this Parliament, is the prosecution of that great and glorious design of bringing His Kingdoms of *Scotland* and *England* to a stricter and nearer Union. This design was begun by His Royal Grandfather of blessed memory, who went so far on towards this great work; that in the first year of His Reign over Great Britain, King *James* named Commissioners for this Kingdom, who by Act of Parliament were authorized to Treat and consult with commissioners for the Kingdom of *England*, concerning such an Union: And in pursuance of their treaty, Acts were made for the repealing of Hostile laws, and the utter abolition of all memory of Hostility between the two Nations: And in the Seventh year of His Reign, it was, by the Judges of all the Courts of Westminster-hall in *England*, solemnly adjudged, in the case of the *Post-nati*, that those who after the descent of the Crown of *England* to King *James*, were born in

Scotland, were no Aliens in England, and consequently were capable, not onely of land, but of all other Immunities, as if they had been born in England, so much was done in King James his time. And the occasions of His Majesties Resolutions to prosecute this great work, were these, complaints having been made to His Majesty, that since the 25th day of *March*, in the Twelfth year of His Reign, new duties were imposed in England, upon divers commodities of the growth, production, and manufacture of Scotland & incapacities laid upon the Subjects of *Scotland*: It pleased the King to appoint divers Meetings upon this matter, though without Success: whereupon the late Parliament of this Kingdom imposed, in their third Session *Ann. 1663* great duties upon the Commodities of the growth, production or manufacture of *England*, which by his Majesties command were suspended, and have not been exacted, though the duties in *Eng^d* still continue; and upon his Majesties recommendation to the Parliament of *England*, an Act was lately made for settling freedom and intercourse of Trade between the two Kingdoms: Whereupon Commissioners were nominated and appointed by his Majesty for both Kingdoms to treat upon that affair, who had many meetings, but produced no effect, unless it were a conviction of the difficulty, if not impossibility of settling it in any other way, then by a nearer and more compleat Union of the two Kingdoms. His Majesty is fully perswaded that nothing can tend more to the good and security of both Nations, than such an Union. And finding that in his royal Grandfathers time, so great an advance was made towards this Union, and that the continuance under the same obedience for near seventy years, having begotten the same common Friends and common Enemies to both Nations, and taken off a great part of those difficulties, which at the first (notwithstanding the Union in obedience to one Sovereign) stood in the way. His Majesty we hopes, that what is yet wanting to the perfecting of it, may be now accomplish'd.

And therefore, in His Majesties name, I do most heartily recommend this great work unto you; and I doubt not, but you will speedily send such an humble answer to His Majesties most gracious Letter, as may witness how well grounded that confidence is, which His Majesty hath expressed of you. This day the Parliament of *England* meets, and the King will both himself, and His Lord Keeper make the like Proposals (as to the Union) unto both houses: And I am confident, that Loyal Parliament, which have all along given such ample Testimonies of their Duty and affection to his Majesty, will upon this occasion make a suitable return to His Proposals. What is farther to be proposed upon this matter, shall be offered at your next dayes meeting; and the King doubts not but that after the meeting of Commissioners for both Kingdoms

Kingdoms, those things will be tendered to your consideration, in order to the Union, as shall tend to the Honour of His Majesty, and the common good of all his Subjects. These things I was commanded, before I came away from His Majesty to acquaint you with, and I have since, upon another occasion, received an order in writing, bearing date the 7th of this moneth; by which I am again commanded, amply to declare His Majesties unchangeable Resolution to maintain Episcopal Government in the Church. So having begun and ended with this declaration, I hope both the groundless Jealousies, on the one hand, and the vain and idle hopes on the other shall beat an end.

The answer of the Parliament of Scotland, to his Majesties Gracious Letter.

Most Sacred Sovereign,

The Goodnesse of God in restoring YOUR MAJESTY to Your Government, and thereby this your Antient Kingdome to its former Liberty and Peace; Hath been and will ever with all Duty and Thankfulness, be Acknowledged, as the Greatest Blessing we are capable of in this World. And the many singular and renewed Testimonies this Kingdome hath since met with, of Your Fatherly care, kindness, and Zeale, to promote its well are and Happiness in all its Concernes, have so ingaged the hearts and Affections of Your Subjects, That We can with Confidence assure Your Majesty of a chearful Concurrence from this Kingdom in every thing may tend to Your Majesties Honour, or the Good of Your People.

We do, with the like Duty and Thankfulness, acknowledge Your Majesties Grace and Goodness, in Your Desires to render this *Island* more happy then ever it was in former times, by Setting among Your good Subjects within the same, such a Mutual Affection as may endure to all Hostility. And, since the Bringing of Your two Kingdomes of Scotland and England to a close and strict an Union as is possible, is the Mean Your Majesty proposes for Effectuating thereof, We shall be ready to Give Our Hearty Concurrence therein: And, in Order thereunto are willing that Commissioners be appointed for this Kingdom, to treat with such as shall be Employed for the Kingdom of England, upon the Grounds and Conditions of this Union: Reserving alwaies to the Parliament, To whom the Resolution of these Commissioners are to be turned, the Consideration thereof, and the Allowing or Disallowing of the same, as they shall judge fit. And, in Confidence of our Majesties most Excellent Judgment, and Great Affection in

all things relating to the Happineſſ of Your People, whereof the Kingdom hath already had ſo many Signal proofs; We do freely and heartily offer to your Maieſty the nomination of the perſon to treat for this Kingdom, with the appointing of their number Quorum, Time and place of their meeting; And, upon ſignification of your Maieſties Pleaſure therein, we ſhall give ſuch Commiſſions and Orders for promoting of the treaty, as (reſerving the full determination of all to the Parliament, as aforeſaid) ſhall witneſs our cheerful compliance with your Maieſties deſires.

The Earl of Lauderdale, whom your Maieſty, to the great ſatisfaction of your People, and Interſt of your Service, has beſtowed to authorize as your Commiſſioner, hath, in your Maieſties name renewed to us the aſſurances of your Maieſties care and reſpect, to the good of this your ancient Kingdom, for which we do humbly return to your Maieſty the offer of our lives and fortunes, for the advancement of your Maieſties Honor and Greatneſs, and maintenance of your Royal Authority and Government. And in every thing ſhall be propoſed by him, we ſhall not only give credit as to your Commiſſioner, but alſo ſuch cheerful and ready Obedience, as may evidence to the World the Loyalty of our hearts: And in Teſtimony hereof, theſe preſents are by warrant, and in name of your Parliament, Signed by

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to your Maieſties Honor, or the Good

Most Sacred Sovereign,

YOUR MAJESTIES

*Most Faithful, most Obedient,
and most humble
Subject and Servant,*

ROTHES CANCELL,

in Preſentia Dominorum

Parliamenti.

Edinburgh: 22. Octob.

1662.

FINIS